

**CHAPTER NO. 843**

**SENATE BILL NO. 2843**

**By Bowers, Finney**

**Substituted for: House Bill No. 3150**

**By Marrero**

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 36 and Title 37, relative to paternity of children born to minors.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 37-1-403, is amended by inserting the following as a new subsection (g) thereto and by designating the current subsection (g) as subsection (h):

(g) Every physician or other person who makes an initial diagnosis of pregnancy to an unemancipated minor, and every superintendent or manager of a clinic, dispensary, or charitable or penal institution in which there is a case of an unemancipated minor who is determined to be pregnant, shall provide to such minor's parent, if the parent is present, and the minor consents, any readily available written information on how to report to the Department of Children's Services an occurrence of sex abuse which may have resulted in the minor's pregnancy unless such disclosure to the parent would violate the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 or the regulations promulgated pursuant thereto.


(i) Failure to provide such written information shall not subject a person to the penalty provided by § 37-1-412.

(ii) The Department of Children's Services shall provide to the Department of Health the relevant written information. The Department of Health shall distribute copies of such written information to all licensees of the appropriate health-related boards through the boards' routinely issued newsletters. At the time of initial licensure, these boards will also provide new licensees a copy of the relevant written information for distribution pursuant to (g) above.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: May 25, 2006

  
JOHN S. WILDER  
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

  
JIMMY NAIFEH, SPEAKER  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 2nd day of June 2006

  
PHIL BREDESEN, GOVERNOR